FD-302 (Rev. 1-25-60)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 12/19/63

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GUS BEELER, Assistant Manager, Bourbon House Restaurant and Bar, 700 Bourbon Street, New Orleans, Louisiana, stated he does not know LEE HARVEY OSWALD or JACK RUBY and to his knowledge, has never met either individual.

GUS BEELER advised after viewing photographs of both LEE HARVEY OSWALD and JACK RUBY, that he could not identify either person as being a patron of the Bourbon House Bar.

GUS BEELER stated that there has been considerable conversation in the Bourbon House regarding LEE HARVEY OSWALD particularly by the wife of KERRY WENDELL THORNLEY. Both THORNLEY and his wife, according to BEELER, were regular patrons of the restaurant and bar and well known to most of the customers. THORNLEY and his wife separated about the time of the assassination of President KENNEDY and since that time, Mrs. THORNLEY has been "running down her husband" and telling everyone what will listen to her that he, THORNLEY, was a friend of LEE HARVEY OSWALD.

In addition, BEELER advised that KERRY WENDELL THORNLEY has made public statements which have appeared in the local newspaper that he has either written a book or is writing a book in which he uses LEE HARVEY OSWALD as a model for a character in the book. BEELER stated that he did not know if this was true, but it has been the subject of conversation in the Bourbon House.

BEELER advised that other than the remarks about KERRY WENDELL THORNLEY which have been passed in the Bourbon House, he could think of no other individual frequenting the Bourbon House what might have known LEE HARVEY OSWALD.

On 12/18/63 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 100-16601

by SA REGIS L. KENNEDY :lav Date dictated 12/19/63

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ADA JOHNSON, Cashier, Bourbon House, 700 Bourbon Street, advised that she has worked at the Bourbon House for seven years and in that time has seen thousands of "characters" come and go from this restaurant and it would be impossible for her to state that LEE HARVEY OSWALD has frequented this restaurant. She did state after viewing a photograph of LEE HARVEY OSWALD, that she did not recognize OSWALD as ever having been a patron of the Bourbon House.

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ERIC TRUMBACH, 1025 Dauphine Street, employed as a bartender and night manager of the Lafitte In Exile Bar, corner of Dumaine and Bourbon Streets, New Orleans, Louisiana, advised that he did not know LEE HARVEY OSWALD or JACK RUBY and to his knowledge had never seen either individual.

TRUMBACH stated that the Lafitte In Exile Bar is frequented by the homosexual element of the City of New Orleans and while he is acquainted with all of the regular customers of the bar, he knows most of them by their first name and nickname or just as a regular customer and only infrequently does he ever learn the full or correct name of any of the customers of this bar.

TRUMBACH stated that approximately December 1, 1963, an individual whose name he did not know and with whom he was not personally acquainted, was seated in the bar and they discussed the assassination of President KENNEDY. During the conversation, a question was raised as to whether OSWALD was "gay", that is, whether OSWALD was a homosexual. TRUMBACH stated that he told this unknown individual that if OSWALD was "gay" he must have known him. TRUMBACH stated he did not mean that he did know OSWALD, but this was just a general statement by which he meant that OSWALD probably came into the Lafitte In Exile Bar at sometime or other if OSWALD lived in New Orleans and was "gay". TRUMBACH stated that during the same conversation the name CLAY BERTRAND was also mentioned and TRUMBACH stated that this name sounded familiar to him. He remarked to this unknown individual that he thought this person may have been a patron of the Lafitte In Exile Bar. TRUMBACH stated that he subsequently determined that the individual he associated with the name CLAY BERTRAND was not CLAY BERTRAND and that this person's name was BURTON (phonetic) first name unknown, who occasionally comes into the Lafitte In Exile Bar. He stated he observed BURTON about two weeks ago, but did not know BURTON's residence or employment.

TRUMBACH stated that the assassination of President Kennedy has been a major topic of conversation among the

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homosexuals of New Orleans and all of them have their own opinions based on what they have read in the newspapers and seen on television.

TRUMBACH viewed photographs of LEE HARVEY OSWALD and JACK RUBY and stated that both individuals were unknown to him.

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